INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION ENSURING A FAIR AND EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST MIGRATORY MOURNING DOVES IN THE PACIFIC FLYWAY

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today a House Concurrent Resolution calling for a renegotiation of the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1916 to promote fair and equitable hunting opportunities for sportsmen in the western United States.

Specifically, my legislation provides for a lengthening of the migratory mourning dove hunting season in the Pacific Flyway Region. This region includes the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

The nationwide hunting season opening date for migratory mourning doves is September 1st, as established by the Migratory Bird Treaty. However, in the Pacific Flyway Region, 75 percent of the migratory mourning dove population has already moved south by this traditional opening day. Because of this naturally occurring event, sportsmen in western states, including my own State of Utah, are denied the same hunting opportunities for mourning doves as millions of other Americans.

This Resolution is the first step towards correcting this problem by urging the President to take immediate action to begin discussions for the necessary renegotiation of the Migratory Bird Treaty with the appropriate counties who are signatories to this document. It is only through these modifications that sportsmen across the United States will be able to enjoy equally fruitful hunting experiences.

It is important to note that migratory mourning doves are the most widely distributed game bird in North America, as well as the most harvested. Current hunting regulations for mourning doves have been conclusively found to cause no significant effects on recruitment of fledglings in mourning dove populations. An extended hunting season of one additional week at the end of August will pose no threat to migratory mourning doves as game managers will be free to update any regulations necessary to allow for a lengthened season.

This resolution has already found approval with many sportsman groups and wildlife managers throughout the Pacific Flyway region, especially in the intermountain states of Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming.

Mourning dove hunting remains a time honored tradition in the Pacific Flyway region, and it is essential that more equitable harvesting conditions be established. Congress should pass this resolution as an act of fairness and as an expression of our gratitude to western sportsmen who have consistently demonstrated a commitment to conserving wildlife by contributing millions of dollars to the Federal Aid to Wildlife Conservation Fund. I urge the expeditious passage of this Resolution so that we can start the process of resolving this inequitable situation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEVERAL HOSPITALS IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to the floor today to congratulate several hospitals in western Pennsylvania that were just named as some of the best in the country by U.S. News and World Report.

Pittsburgh has a long history as a hub of research and development in health care. From the life saving work of tissue research, to their reputation as a world-renowned provider of pediatric care, Pittsburgh area hospitals continue to make breakthroughs in the care and treatment of the sick. Three local hospitals made U.S. News and World Report's annual assessment of the country's best hospitals, and I would like to pay tribute to them now.

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh was ranked as one of the best pediatric hospitals in the country, a testimony to their efforts to ensure that children are in playgrounds and camps during the summer, not hospital beds. The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center was named as one of the top otolaryngology centers due to their commitment to curing disorders from hearing loss to neck cancer. The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center also joined Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh as two of the best centers in America to treat cancer.

These hospitals are on the front lines every day, searching for more answers and providing more cures to some of the most painful and debilitating disorders known to man. I commend these and all other hospitals as they work to make our lives healthier and happier. It is through their tireless work and dedication that we continue to expand the quality of life and health of all western Pennsylvanians, as well as people throughout the world.

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL NEW YORK BENEFACTOR SHERMAN SAUNDERS

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a neighbor who has generously given of his time, talent, and finances to benefit the Central New York community. Mr. Sherman Saunders, a local businessman, was honored earlier this week at a surprise eighty-third birthday party in Syracuse, New York.

Mr. Saunders was born on July 10, 1918, in Syracuse to a local family that operated a stone and gravel business. Mr. Saunders' great-grandfather started the business as a livery stable on West Onondaga Street. After receiving a civil engineering degree from Syracuse University, Mr. Saunders ran the family business, eventually expanding it to sell sand and Redi-Mix in addition to stone and gravel. Many major Syracuse area landmarks and development projects utilized his company's services during their construction, and the Central New York community continues to literally rely upon him as it grows and prospers.

Mr. Saunders and his wife of forty-two years, Marie, have six children—Judith, Karen, Gail, Michael, Sandy, and Marilyn—and continue to reside in the Syracuse area. Their son Michael directs the family business today.

Besides Mr. Saunders' community contributions as a local businessman, Mr. Saunders has been a tireless advocate for good government. With a keen interest in politics, Mr. Saunders has given generously to local candidates for public office. Mr. Saunders has also been a generous benefactor to such local organizations as the Greater Syracuse Boys & Girls Club, various youth recreation organizations, the SPCA, and Syracuse-area Catholic Charities.

Mr. Saunders' longtime philanthropic work is deserved of such special recognition this week, but his modest and humble demeanor makes his generosity even more noteworthy. As his family and friends gather in celebration of his birthday, I wish him continued health and prosperity as he enters his eighty-fourth year and thank him for his numerous contributions to making Syracuse a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

IN MEMORY OF KENNETH HERMAN BLOHM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Kenneth Herman Blohm, whose lifelong career of public service influenced many lives on the Central Coast of California. Mr. Blohm, who passed away on July 2, 2001, is survived by his two sisters, five children, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. His wife of 56 years, Agnes O'Grady Blohm, died in 1990.

Mr. Blohm was born in Watsonville, California on November 8, 1908. He worked as an auditor for the Railroad Express Agency from 1926-1963, and then served as a Monterev County judge for ten years. Mr. Blohm served in the California State Guard during World War II. and in 1942, he was President of the Spring District School Board in Salinas. From 1969 until 1974, he served as President of the North Monterey County School District, and in 1976, Mr. Blohm was elected to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, where he served until 1980. Beyond his contributions as a public servant. Mr. Blohm dedicated himself to the broader community. He was a member, and leader, of the Salinas Elks, the Castroville Rotary, the Knights of Columbus, the Gambetta Little League, the Elkhorn School Parent-Teacher Association, and the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Blohm, known as a man with firm convictions, truly believed in his work, and worked towards improving the quality of lives on the Central Coast. Throughout his term on the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, he was a frequent critic of county land-use policy and often voted in favor of property owners who appealed county planning decisions. He strongly believed in voting his conscience and believed that every citizen had the right to be heard on an issue before it became policy. Throughout his years of public service he remained loyal to his belief in less government